

Guard of Paris, who every night patrolled the streets. My duties as Director-General of the Post-office had of course obliged me to resign my captain's epaulet.

When I first obtained my appointment I had soon somewhat alarmed to hear that all the roads were covered with foreign troops, especially Cossacks, who even in time of peace are very ready to capture any horses that may fall in their way. On my application to the Emperor Alexander his Majesty immediately issued a ukase, severely prohibiting the seizure of horses or any thing belonging to the Post-office department. The ukase was printed by order of the Czar, and fixed up at all the post-offices, and it will be seen that after the 20th of March, when I was placed in an embarrassing situation, one of the postmasters on the Lille road expressed to me his gratitude for my conduct while I was in the service.

On the 10th of April a ceremony took place in Paris which has been much spoken of, and which must, have had a very imposing effect on those who allow themselves to be dazzled by mere spectacle. Early in the morning Home regiments of the Allied troops occupied the north side of the Boulevard, from the site of the old Hostile to the Place* Louis XV., in the middle of which an altar of square form was erected. Thither the Allied sovereigns came to witness the celebration of mass according to the rites of the Greek Church. I went; to a window of the hotel of the Minister of the Marine*, to see the ceremony. After I had waited from eight in the morning till near twelve the pageant commenced by the arrival of half a dozen Greek priests, with long beards, and an richly dressed and the high priests who figure in the processions of the opera. About three-quarters of an hour after this first scene the* infantry, followed by the cavalry, entered the place, which, in a few moments was entirely covered with military. The Allied sovereigns at length appeared, attended by brilliant staffs. They alighted from their horses and advanced to the altar. What appeared to me most remarkable was the profound Hiltmcu) of the vast multitude during the performance of the mass. The whole spectacle had the effect of a finely painted panorama^ For